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| Form PTO-1449<br><br>US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <i>Complete if Known</i> |                     |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/549,762          |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | September 19, 2005  |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Shinji KAWASAKI     |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 1794                |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Robinson, Lauren E. |
|   |   |    |   | Confirmation No.         | 8406                |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket No.      | 791_340             |

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam.<br>Initial |  | Document Number | Date | Name | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub<br>Class | Filing Date |
|------------------|--|-----------------|------|------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------------|
|                  |  |                 |      |      |                |       |              |             |
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#### U.S. RELATED COPENDING APPLICATIONS

| Exam.<br>Initial |  | Application/<br>Publication Number | Filing/<br>Publication Date | Inventor Name | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub<br>Class |
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|                  |  |                                    |                             |               |                |       |              |
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#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |           | Document Number | Date       | Country | Class | Sub<br>Class | Translation             | Abstract |
|--|-----------|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------------------|----------|
|  | <i>AI</i> | 2001-097777 A1  | 04-10-2001 | JP      |       |              | JPO Machine Translation | ✓        |
|  |           |                 |            |         |       |              |                         |          |
|  |           |                 |            |         |       |              |                         |          |
|  |           |                 |            |         |       |              |                         |          |
|  |           |                 |            |         |       |              |                         |          |

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

|  |           |   |
|--|-----------|---|
|  | <i>AI</i> | F. Thümmeler, "Engineering Ceramics," Journal of the European Ceramic Society, Vol. 6, No. 3, 1 January 1990, pp. 139-151 |
|  |           |   |

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| Examiner: |  | Date Considered: |  |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.